

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please replace the claims with the claims provided in the listing below wherein status, amendments, additions and cancellations are indicated.

1. - 8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently amended) Method for examining an ocular fundus, comprising:

generating images of the ocular fundus by means of a camera and/or an illumination unit[[],];

evaluating quality of the images[[],];

comparing the images with image patterns corresponding to one or more diseases to determine, with a degree of certitude, whether the images are classifiable as indicating one or more of said diseases[[],]; and

controlling position of at least one of the camera [[and]] and/or the illumination unit optimally for further evaluating quality of the images and degree of certitude of classification of the images as indicating said one or more diseases.

10. (Currently amended) Method according to claim 9, wherein said controlling is implemented over a closed control circuit to a control unit of said camera and/or illumination unit; and

said ~~position~~ controlling position and further evaluating are repeated until the certitude of the disease classification is satisfactory.

11. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 9 or 10, wherein said comparing generates parameters for new position settings of said camera and/or illumination unit.

12. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 9 or 10, wherein the classification is performed by means of a pattern recognition algorithm.

13. (Currently amended) Method according to claim 9 or 10, wherein said control of the position of said camera and/or illumination unit is via ~~[[the]]~~ a pattern recognition algorithm.

14. (Currently amended) Method according to claim 10, wherein:
a laser comprises said camera and/or illumination unit~~[[,]]~~;
a beam from the laser scans the ocular fundus~~[[,]]~~; and
at least one of a scanning area, ~~and/or~~ a focus of the laser beam ~~and/or~~ and
intensity of the laser beam is changed under control of the control unit.

15. (Currently amended) Method according to claim 14, wherein at least one of the change of the scanning area ~~and/or~~ and the focus of the laser beam is effected by optics.

16. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 9 or 10, wherein the comparing is effected by means of a computer.

17. (New) A method for examining an ocular fundus, comprising:
recording at least one image of the ocular fundus using at least one of a camera and an illumination unit;
evaluating a quality of the at least one image;
comparing the at least one image with existing image data which are characteristic for at least one disease to determine, with a degree of certitude, whether the images are classifiable as indicating at least one of said at least one disease; and
positionally controlling at least one of said at least one of said camera and said illumination unit optimally for further evaluating quality of the images and degree of certitude of classification of the images as indicating said at least one disease.

18. (New) A method according to claim 17, wherein each said at least one image comprises an image pattern and said existing image data includes at least one image pattern characteristic for said at least one disease.